

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method for marking an electric wire which includes an electrically conductive core wire and an insulating sheath, by injecting a certain amount of coloring agent to an outer face of said electric wire,

wherein said electric wire is tightened in a state where a tensile force is applied in a longitudinal direction, and said coloring agent is injected in drop form from an upper side of said electric wire onto an upper part of the outer face of said electric wire to form a band as a ~~[[mask]]~~ mark as a ring on the electric wire, with the drop contacting the uppermost portion of the upper part and moving downwardly by gravity along the outer face to form the band, which gradually becomes narrower from above to below the outer face.

Claim 2 (Cancelled)

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The method for marking an electric wire as claimed in claim 1, wherein said coloring agent is injected through an open end of a nozzle which is opposed to the outer face of said electric wire, and a line extending between a center of said open end and a center

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of said electric wire lies along a vertical direction.

Claims 4 - 6 (Cancelled)

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): ~~[[The]]~~ A method for marking an electric wire as claimed in claim 1, which includes an electrically conductive core wire and an insulating sheath, by injecting a certain amount of coloring agent to an outer face of said electric wire,

wherein said electric wire is tightened in a state where a tensile force is applied in a longitudinal direction, and said coloring agent is injected in drop form from an upper side of said electric wire onto an upper part of the outer face of said electric wire to form a band as a mark on the electric wire, with the drop contacting the uppermost portion of the upper part and moving downwardly by gravity along the outer face to form the band, and

wherein an uppermost portion of the mark has a width larger than a width of the mark at a lowermost portion of the mark, in a longitudinal direction of the electric wire.